

# Diversity within Unity: Developing Sustainable Information Literacy Teams

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Academic Librarian 4

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# Outline

- Introduction & Context
- 2. Sustainability = Question
  - 1. Team Teaching = Our solution
  - 2. Self managed teams
  - 3. Team teaching & Individuality
- 3. Information Literacy & Music
- 4. Jazz metaphor
- 5. Unity & Diversity Teaching Repertoire
- 6. Methods & Tools of Sustainable Team Library Instruction
  - 1. Communication methods & attitudes
  - 2. Sharing Teaching Objects
  - 3. Venues & their scheduling (e-tools) [
  - Session Registration, attendance, reminders, & integrated online assessment
- 7. Summary

# Introduction and Context - The Institution



- Opened in October 1991
- English Medium of Instruction
- PhD granting
- UGC (Government) Supported

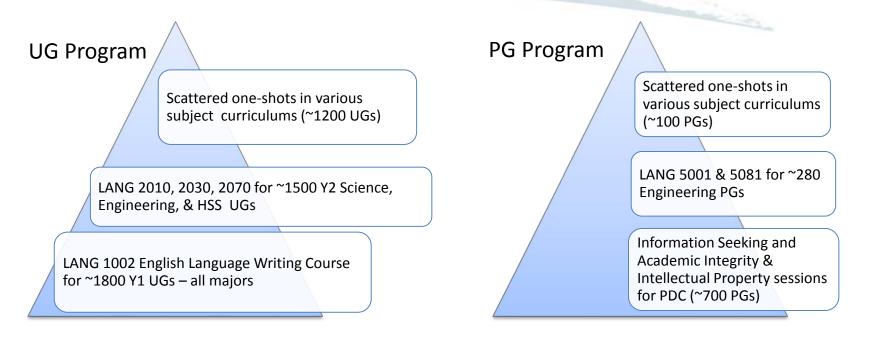
## Students:

**2012: 12,596** (8,699 UG + 3,897 PG) = **23**% increase in UGs

2015: 13,741 (9,113 UG + 4,628 PG) = 5% increase again



# Introduction & Context- the Information Literacy Program





# How do we deliver program sustainably?

#### Sustainable:

- Semester after semester...Year after year...
- Same group, yet honoring individuality
- Capable of bringing new people into group
- Able to deal with new situations and demands (innovative)

## Our answer: Team Teaching via Jazz metaphor

- Self-managed teams with a coordinator
- Shared Teaching Repertoire
- E-tools to foster collaboration
- Good venues with useful & appropriate technologies
- Continual staff development
- Collaborate in planning and delivering the IL instruction.
  - With teammates & other librarians
  - Our stakeholders

# Self-Managed Teams

"...a manger or leader determines the overall purpose or goal of the team, but the team is at liberty to manage the methods by which to achieve the goal". (Thompson, 2014, p. 9).

### Pro:

- Builds commitment
- Shares work
- Increased autonomy
- Enhanced morale

### Con:

- Manager (s) less control
- More difficult to assess progress

Can overcome the difficulty by having robust assessment in place

of University
Librarian & Library
Admin & Library
Systems = VITAL

# **Self Managed Team & Individuality**



#### **Possible Fear of Teams:**

- Loss of individuality
- Must march in lock-step

## **Good teaching & Learning**

- Done in a way is right for individual
- Allows her or his own talents& gifts to blossom.

The metaphor of jazz or "jam band" can be successfully used to explain how a diversity within unity in large scale library instruction can be maintained.

# Information Literacy, like Music...



### Art & Craft

- Body of Knowledge
- Skills & Techniques
- Attitude & Behavior
- Sub-disciplines vary!





# The Jazz Metaphor – Bands & Playing Innovation – making the music your own



1 & 2. "Alexander's Ragtime Band" sheet music (page 2 & excerpt of 3 of 5). 1911. http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/scriptorium/sheetmusic/a/a53/a5378/a5378-2-72dpi.html

<sup>3.</sup> New York World-Telegram and the Sun staff photographer: Palumbo, Fred, photographer. - Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. New York World-Telegram and the Sun Newspaper Photograph Collection. <a href="https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Benny">https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Benny</a> Goodman#/media/File:Benny Goodman rehearsal NYWTS.jpg

<sup>4 .</sup> Trade ad for King Curtis's single "Whole Lotta Love". Wikimedia Commons https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:King Curtis.png

# Team Teaching Information Literacy & The Jazz Metaphor

Information Literacy Teaching & Learning	Jazz or Music Metaphor				
Teaching Repertoire:  ILOs & Class & E-Learning materials	Music Repertoire: Often "cover tunes" or "standard"				
Instruction Team	A band				
<ul> <li>IL Librarians - Create the IL session or online guide</li> <li>Original, or</li> <li>Free to modify within the context</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Musicians who work together &amp; often</li> <li>Sometime create fresh, often</li> <li>modify tune ahead of time or spontaneously</li> <li>improvise variations on the tune</li> <li>"solo"</li> </ul>				
<ul><li>Information Literacy Coordinator</li><li>Head of Reference</li><li>University Librarian</li></ul>	Band Leader(s) Conductor				
Students learners	Audience Dancers Listen, "pick-up" the tune; "dance" to it – maybe learn to play themselves				

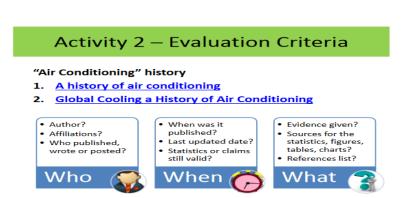
# **Unity & Diversity – Teaching Repertoire** (1)

**Unity -** Agreed-upon and shared ILOs; LibGuides; E-Learning objects Worksheets; In-class exercises; online assessment

**Diversity** - how we teach these session

- How much we adapt & use from colleagues' creations
- How we change & react based on students in individual session





Evaluate the **reliability** & **suitability** of the information



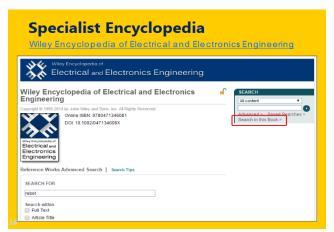


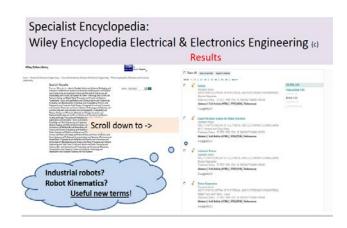




# **Unity & Diversity – Teaching Repertoire** (2)







Sharing PowePoints, worksheets, and LibGuides = heart of our teamwork One of the we chose e "jazz metaphor" - these are our "standards".

Person mainly responsible (e.g. Science Librarian for LANG 2010)

- Makes a LibGuide & PowerPoint and shares with team for feedback & suggestions.
- The PowerPoints subject to variation.
- Different instructors may like particular slides that others have first created, and use and/or modify the
- Others may do something different & then create their own.

# Making It Work (1) Communication with non-Library Partners

# Communication with partners & their teams (CLE, PGSO,

Departments, faculty members, etc.)

### By Email & Phone + Face-to-Face at least twice a year







- Before semester plan and discuss ILOs, assessment, dates, etc.
- Keep up communication during semester (too many, or too few students signing up at certain sessions, or other issues)
- After semester
  - Provide Report(s) (numbers, assessment & feedback
  - Plan next pre-semester meet-up

# Making It Work (2) Constant Team Communication & Staff Development

#### **Communication within the Team**

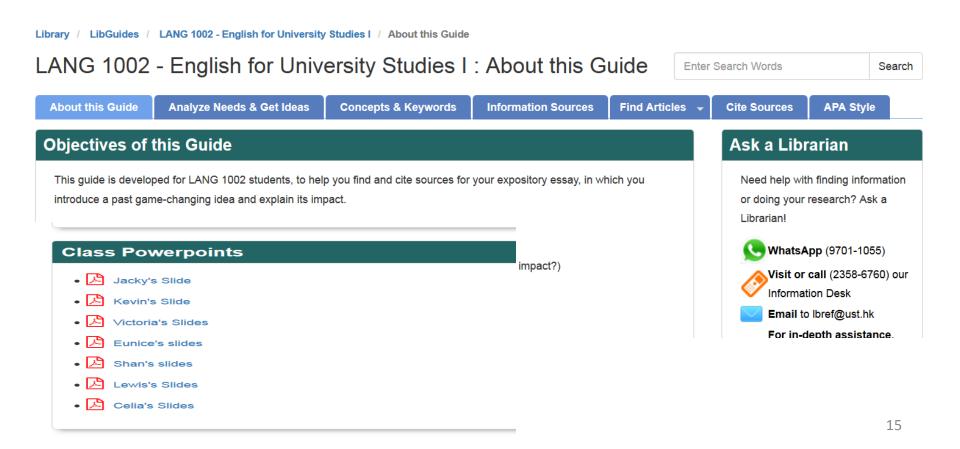
- Regular planning of sessions intellectually & logistically
- Regular, informal review of assessment & feedback among ourselves; sometimes just casual intra-office chat of "how it's going" or "how it went"
- Open Communication Culture (default = share)
- Formal Reports at Information Services Committee

### **Staff Development**

- Departmental: Learning Circle for teaching librarians (~ 3 or 4 times a year) Examples:
  - 2014 met twice on to discuss & prep feedback on 2 drafts of the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education
  - In 2016 instruction librarians attend at least one of the other's sessions and think about what new & different things our colleagues do could be brought to her or his own teaching.
- Library & JULAC Capacity Building Program (2016), ACRL Immersion (2013), Conference attendance, Library Connect (Library-wide), etc.
- Institutional: HKUST Center for Education Innovation workshops

# Making It Work via E-Tools (3) Sharing teaching materials

- Shared drive (colleagues)
- Owncloud (colleagues)
- LibGuides (colleagues, students, & collaborating partners)



# Making It Work via E-Tools (4) Self-scheduling via shared Google-doc

## IL Manager (or other coordinator)

- Schedule times & venues
- Creates Google doc
- Instruction librarians to fill in themselves

## **Diversity within the Unity + Shared workload**

- Selected times match preferences
- Can arrange own swaps

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	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	н	1	J	K
	2015 Spring se	mester LANG 20	10 & 2030 class								
2	Venue: E-learning Classroom B										
	LANG 1002, wee	ek 6-8, 46 session	ns	Duration: 1 hr							
	LANG 2010, wee	ek 3-4, 11 session	ns	Duration: 1 hr							
	LANG 2030, wk	8-9, 22 sessions	5	Duration: 1 hr							
	RefWorks (LAN	G 5001), wk 6, 5 :	sessions	Duration: 1 hr 2	0 min						
3											
9	Week 3	Mon, 14 Sep	Instructor	Tue, 15 Sep	Instructor	Wed, 16 Sep	Instructor	Thu, 17 Sep	Instructor	Fri, 18 Sep	Instructor
)	10.00am-11.00p	m									
	11.15am-12.15p	11.15am-12.15pm									
2	12.30pm-1.30pn	n				2010-Class 1	Jacky			2010-Class 4 ** 12.15-1.15pm	Jacky
3	1.45pm-2.45pm							2010-Class 3	Tory		
4	3.00pm-4.00pm										
5	4.15pm-5.15pm										
6	5.30pm-6.30pm					2010-Class 2	Tory				
7											
В											
9	Week 4	Mon, 21 Sep	Instructor	Tue, 22 Sep	Instructor	Wed, 23 Sep	Instructor	Thu, 24 Sep	Instructor	Fri, 25 Sep	Instructor
0	10.00am-11.00p	m						2010-Class 10	Lewis		
1	11.15am-12.15p	m		2010-Class 7	Jacky	2010-Class 9 ** 11.00-12.00	Lewis				
2	12.30pm-1.30pn	2010-Class 5	Jacky								
3.	1.45pm-2.45pm	2010-Class 6	Lewis								
4	3.00pm-4.00pm										
-					1		1				1

# Making It Work via Excellent Venues & E-Tools (5)

#### 5 Excellent venues

- Library Managed & Maintained
- Technology enriched teaching venues
- All instruction librarians can book online





## **Unity & Diversity**

## Mass sessions

Share venue (reduce set-up time)

## Individually arranged sessions

- Can choose venue & time
- No worry about overlap

# Making it work via E-Tools (6) Registration, Reminder, Attendance & Assessment

## Software integrates

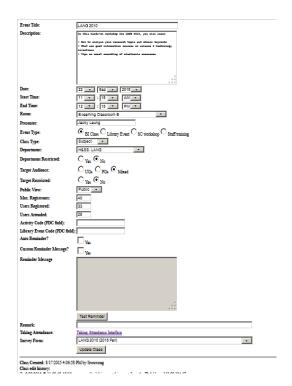
- Class scheduling & registration for the students
- Email Reminders
- Attendance interface (via ID scanning)
- Assessment survey & report



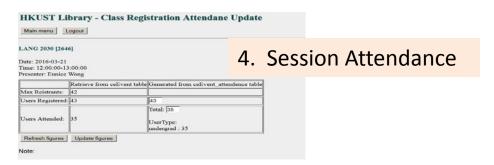
1. Public View

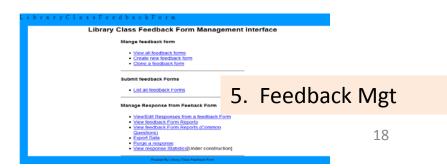


2. Admin view -list of classes



3. Admin view – session





## **Summary - Diversity within Unity**

### **Diversity**

If we want to teach effectively, with our whole selves, in a way that is honest to us, we cannot teach like another person, no matter how much we may like or admire their teaching. (Parker's insight)

### Unity

But together we can sustainably work fruitfully & harmoniously with colleagues, collaborators & students for the teaching and learning of the art & craft of information literacy, using....

- Self-managed teams with a coordinator
- Shared Teaching Repertoire
- Good Communication:
  - With teammates, collaborators, & students
- Regular staff development
- E-tools to foster collaboration
- Good venues with useful & appropriate technologies



Q & A